

## REMARKS

Applicant has amended claims 2-12, 15-16, 18, and 22-24 and cancelled claims 1 and 20-21. Accordingly, claims 2-19 and 22-24 are pending in the application.

In the Office Action, the Examiner finds that claims 22 and 24 contain allowable subject matter, but the Examiner objects to the claims citing that certain symbols are not defined within the claim. In response, the applicant has amended claim 22 to indicate that 1)  $Env(l)$  is a linear value for environmental considerations, 2)  $M(a)$  is a linear value for project type, 3)  $Life$  is a linear value for the selected software lifecycle, 4)  $Std$  is a linear value for the selected software standard, 5)  $KSLOC$  is thousands of lines of code, 6)  $M(b)$  is a scaling value for project type, and 7)  $Env(s)$  is a scaling factor for environmental considerations. Support for these definitions are found in the specification as filed on page 19 at lines 15-25.

The applicant has also amended claim 24 to indicated that 1)  $T(a)$  is a linear value for project type, 2)  $T(b)$  is a scaling value for project type, 3)  $effort$  is a an estimate of resource used derived from the effort rule, and 4)  $Env(s)$  is a scaling factor for environmental considerations. Support for these definitions are found in the specification as filed on page 20 at lines 1-6.

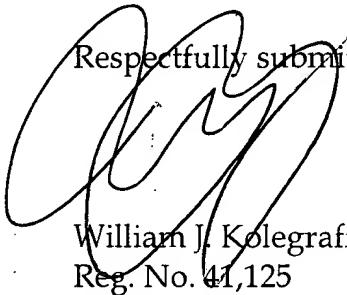
The applicant respectfully submits that claims 22 and 24 have been amended to overcome the objections raised by the Examiner, and are now in a condition for allowance.

The applicant has also amended claims 2-12, 15-16, 18, and 23 to depend from claim 22 or claim 24. Since claims 22 and 24 are deemed allowable, the remaining pending claims are also believed to be allowable based on their dependence from an allowable claim.

## CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 2-19 and 22-24 are now in a condition for allowance. If the Examiner would find it useful, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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